

**COMMITTEE MINUTES for
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE**

Date: February 21, 2007

Place: Room 305

Convened: 2/21/2007
9:50 AM

Recessed:

Reconvened:

Adjourned: 2/21/2007
10:55 AM

Present: Senators Seng-CH, Schoenjahn-VC, Gaskill-RM, Black
Representatives Kuhn-CH, Bailey-VC, De Boef-RM, Bell, Deyoe, Grassley, Mertz, Olson,
D., Rasmussen

Absent: None

Excused: Senator Houser

Sen. Seng called the meeting to order.

Roll was taken.

The minutes from the previous meeting of February 15, 2007 were approved as distributed.

Sen. Seng asked that those present who were not legislators introduce themselves.

Sen. Seng introduced Kevin Jacobson, Chairperson, Iowa Watershed Improvement Review Board. Mr. Jacobson gave a presentation on the review board, including a brief history, the board's primary functions, funding, leveraging of additional funds, applications for funding, application selection criteria, project length, and oversight of projects. Mr. Jacobson then fielded questions from the committee.

Sen. Seng introduced Herb Kuehne, Iowa Geographic Information Council, who discussed Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR). Mr. Kuehne discussed the positives of a statewide aerial photograph at 2-foot resolution to accompany the LiDAR that is already funding. He discussed the uses of such aerial photography in public safety, state agencies, and private business.

Mr. Kuehne introduced Micah Cutler, GIS Coordinator, Franklin and Hardin Counties, who discussed aerial photography. Ms. Cutler went into the disparity between more populous and rural counties, uses, the savings to taxpayers for doing a statewide photograph as opposed to a piecemeal county-by-county system, and the inter-county interests that would be served.

Mr. Kuehne then introduced Brad Cutler, GIS Project Specialist, Golden Hills Resource Conservation and Development. Mr. Cutler discussed the disparities in up-to-date aerial photography from county to county and gave a detailed summary of the savings that a statewide photography program would provide to local government entities.

The trio then field questions from the committee.

Sen. Seng opened the meeting to a discussion of targets and funding priorities. The discussion included air quality monitoring, the Iowa State University Veterinary School, agricultural drainage wells, REAP, and Dairy Monitoring.

Sen. Seng then asked for public input on funding priorities. REAP, ethanol and ground water funding were brought up by those members of the public who spoke.

Rep. Deyoe moved the committee arise.

The meeting adjourned.

Senator Dr. Joe M. Seng

Ben Humphrey, Committee Secretary